



JAY DARDENNE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF STATE PARKS

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**For immediate release:
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OFFICE OF STATE PARKS REVISES OPERATING HOURS

The Office of State Parks is announcing revisions to the operating hours of State Historic Sites and State Parks entrance stations, along with changes to overnight accommodation check-in and check-out hours. All changes to the Parks and Historic Sites operating schedule are effective immediately. The complete schedule can be found at www.LaStateParks.com by clicking on **Operating Schedules** in the left navigation menu.

"After reviewing the budget, I met with Park and Historic Site managers to gather input before deciding on this new operating schedule," Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne said. "Our goal is to maximize services to tourists, locals, campers and school groups, all while working within our available resources."

From April through September, entrance stations at parks with boat launches will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., while entrance stations at parks without boat launches will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. From October through March, all entrance stations will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Gates will continue to open at 6 a.m. at parks with boat launches and 7 a.m. at parks without boat launches and will close at 9 p.m. Entrance stations will remain open until 10 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and nights before holidays, all year.

Check-in time for cabins, lodges and group camps will be 3 p.m. and check-out will be 11 a.m. Campsites will retain the current check-in time of 2 p.m. and check-out time of 1 p.m.

State Historic Sites will use the following operational schedules:

Sites operating 7 days a week, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.:

- Mansfield State Historic Site (Mansfield)
- Poverty Point State Historic Site (Epps)
- Rosedown Plantation State Historic Site (St. Francisville)

Sites operating 5 days a week, Wednesdays through Sundays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.:

- Audubon State Historic Site (St. Francisville)
- Port Hudson State Historic Site (Zachary)

Sites operating 5 days a week, Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.:

- Centenary State Historic Site (Jackson)
- Fort Jesup State Historic Site (Many)
- Fort St. Jean Baptiste State Historic Site (Natchitoches)
- Forts Randolph and Buhlow State Historic Site (Pineville)
- Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site (St. Martinville)
- Marksville State Historic Site (Marksville)
- Plaquemine Lock State Historic Site (Plaquemine)
- Rebel State Historic Site (Marthaville)

All State Historic Sites are closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Fort Pike State Historic Site will begin its Tuesday through Saturday schedule in December, after the completion of a major motion picture filming onsite, while Otis House at Fairview-Riverside State Park will re-open in late September, following extensive renovations to the house. Locust Grove State Historic Site and Los Adaes State Historic Site will continue to be available by appointment only. Winter Quarters State Historic Site remains closed due to tornado damage incurred in April 2011.

Before making travel plans, visitors should check www.LaStateParks.com for current Park and Historic Site information.

- www.crt.la.gov -